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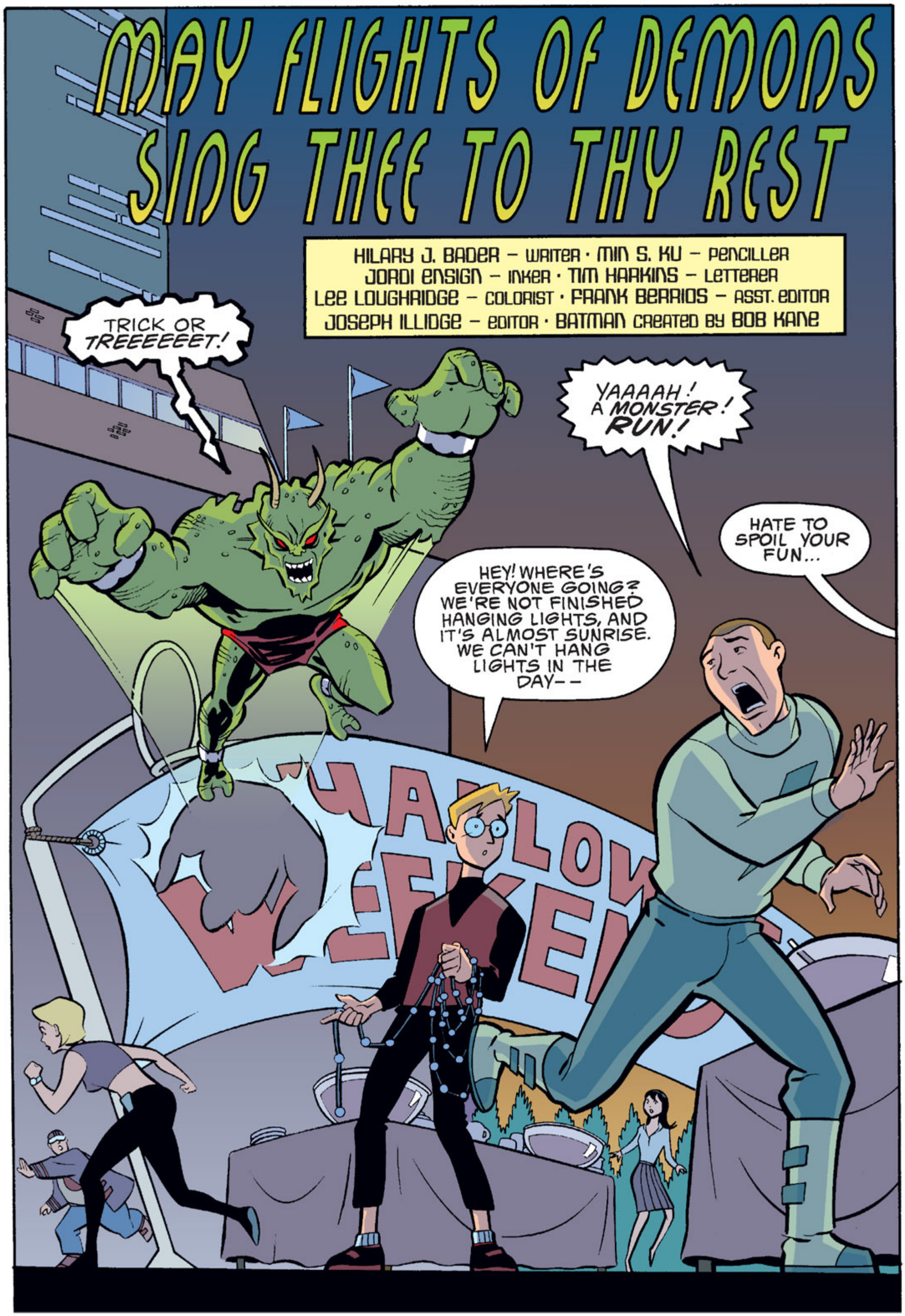
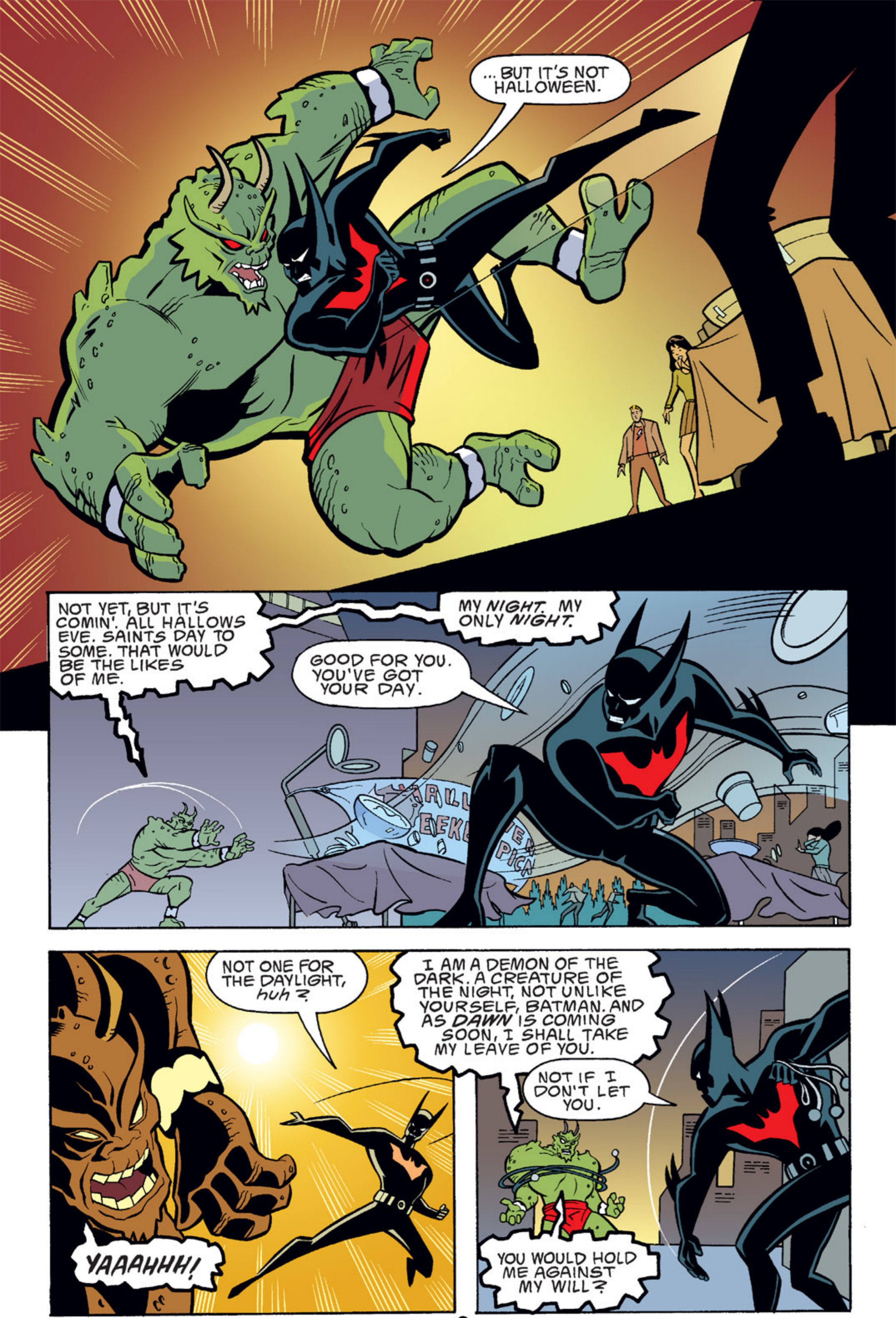

MAY FLIGHTS OF DEMONS SING THEE TO THY REST
HILARY J. BADER – WRITER · MIN S. KU – PENCILLER
JORDI ENSIGN – INKER · TIM HARKINS – LETTERER
LEE LOUGHRIDGE – COLORIST · FRANK BERRIOS – ASST. EDITOR
JOSEPH ILLIDGE – EDITOR · BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE
TRICK OR TREEEEEET!
YAAAAH! A MONSTER! RUN!
HATE TO SPOIL YOUR FUN...
HEY! WHERE'S EVERYONE GOING? WE'RE NOT FINISHED HANGING LIGHTS, AND IT'S ALMOST SUNRISE. WE CAN'T HANG LIGHTS IN THE DAY--


... BUT IT'S NOT HALLOWEEN.
NOT YET, BUT IT'S COMIN'. ALL HALLOWS EVE. SAINTS DAY TO SOME. THAT WOULD BE THE LIKES OF ME.
GOOD FOR YOU. YOU'VE GOT YOUR DAY.
MY *NIGHT*. MY ONLY *NIGHT*.
NOT ONE FOR THE DAYLIGHT, *huh?*
YAAAHHH!
I AM A DEMON OF THE DARK. A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, NOT UNLIKE YOURSELF, BATMAN. AND AS *DAWN* IS COMING SOON, I SHALL TAKE MY LEAVE OF YOU.
NOT IF I DON'T LET YOU.
YOU WOULD HOLD ME AGAINST MY WILL?

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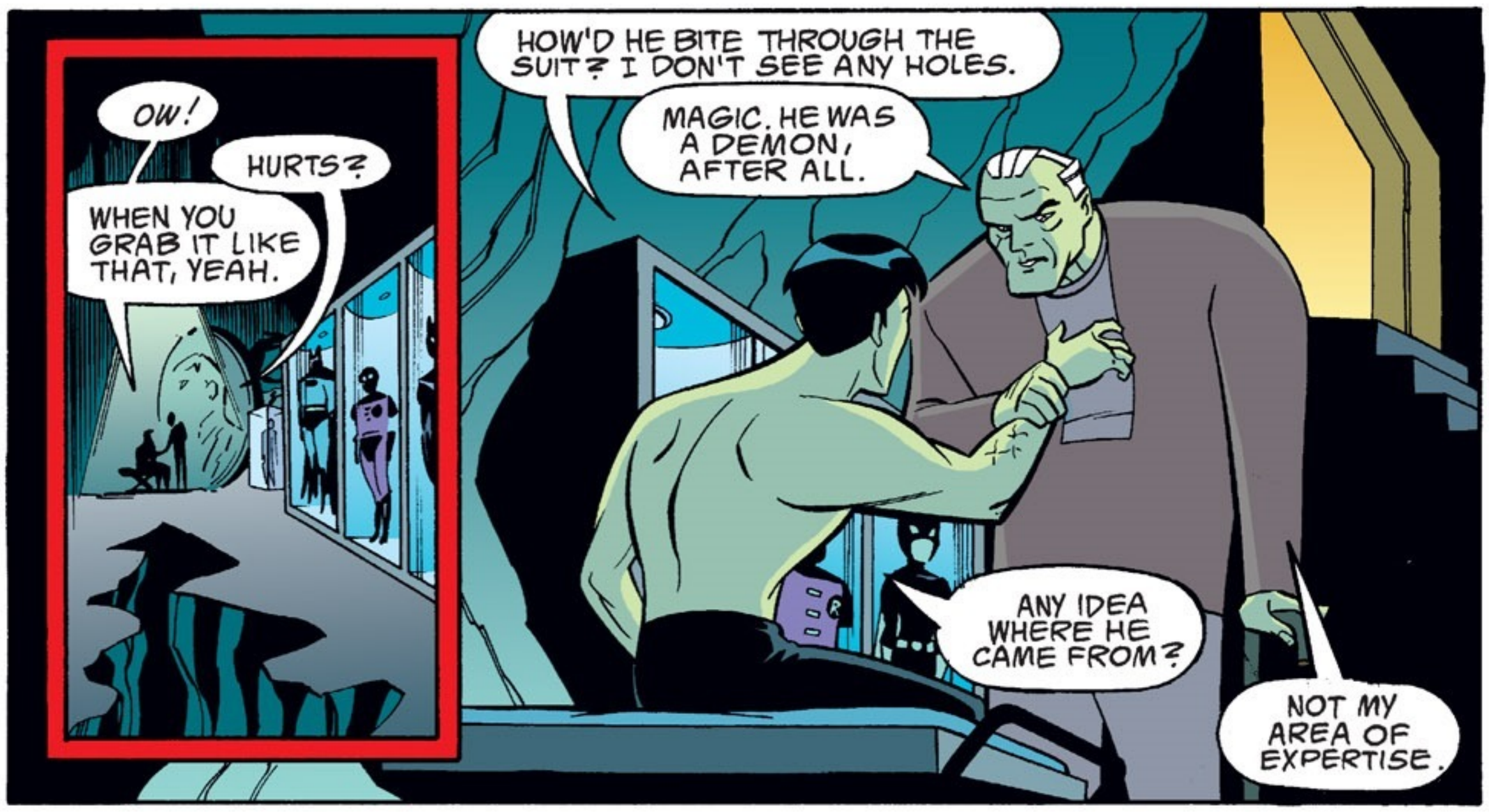

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"FIRST THING!"
hungh. oh MAN. AM I... sigh...

shurkle, short, zzzzzz

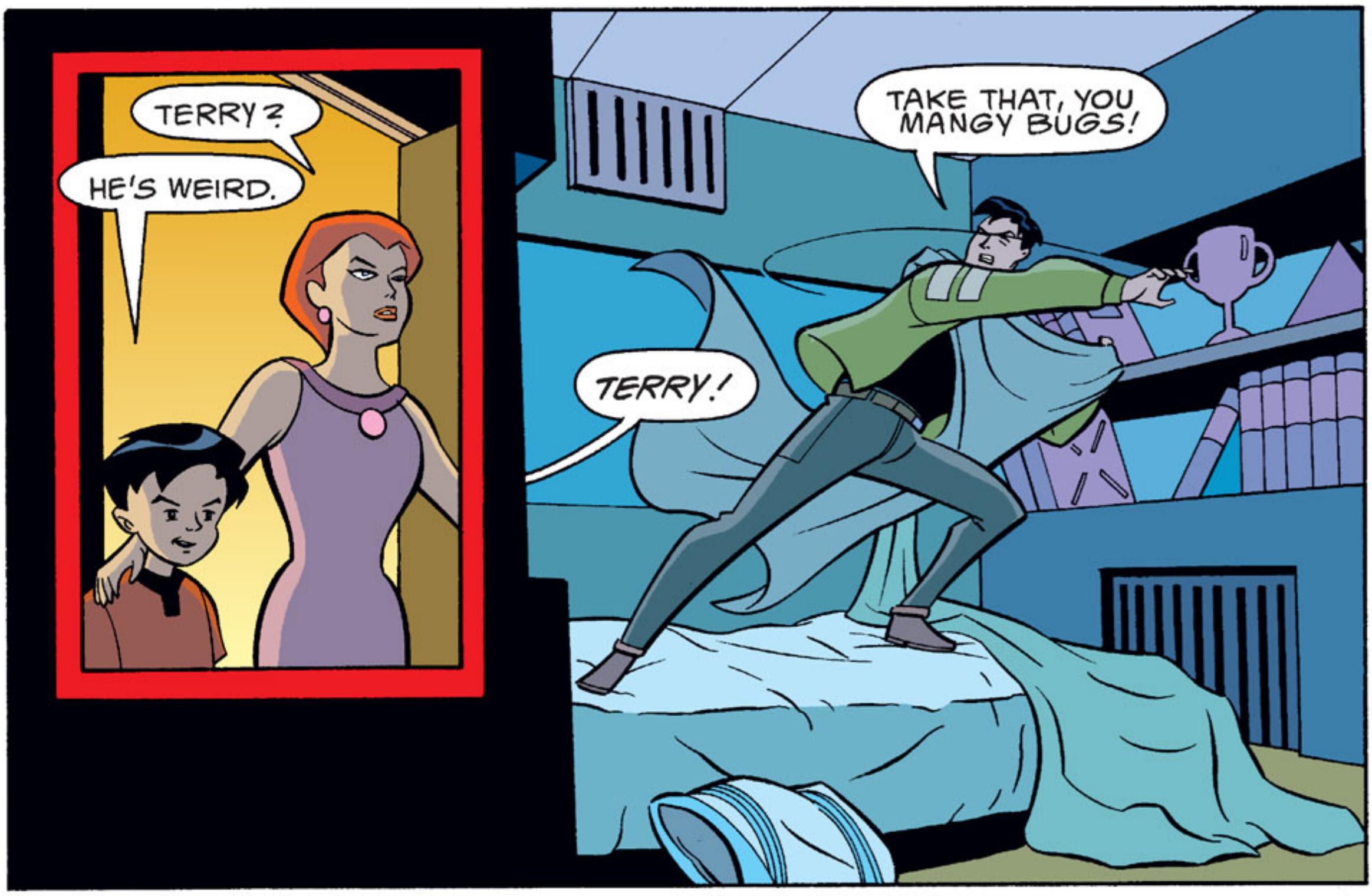
"RISE AND SHINE," LITTLE MORTAL.

"RISE AND SHINE."

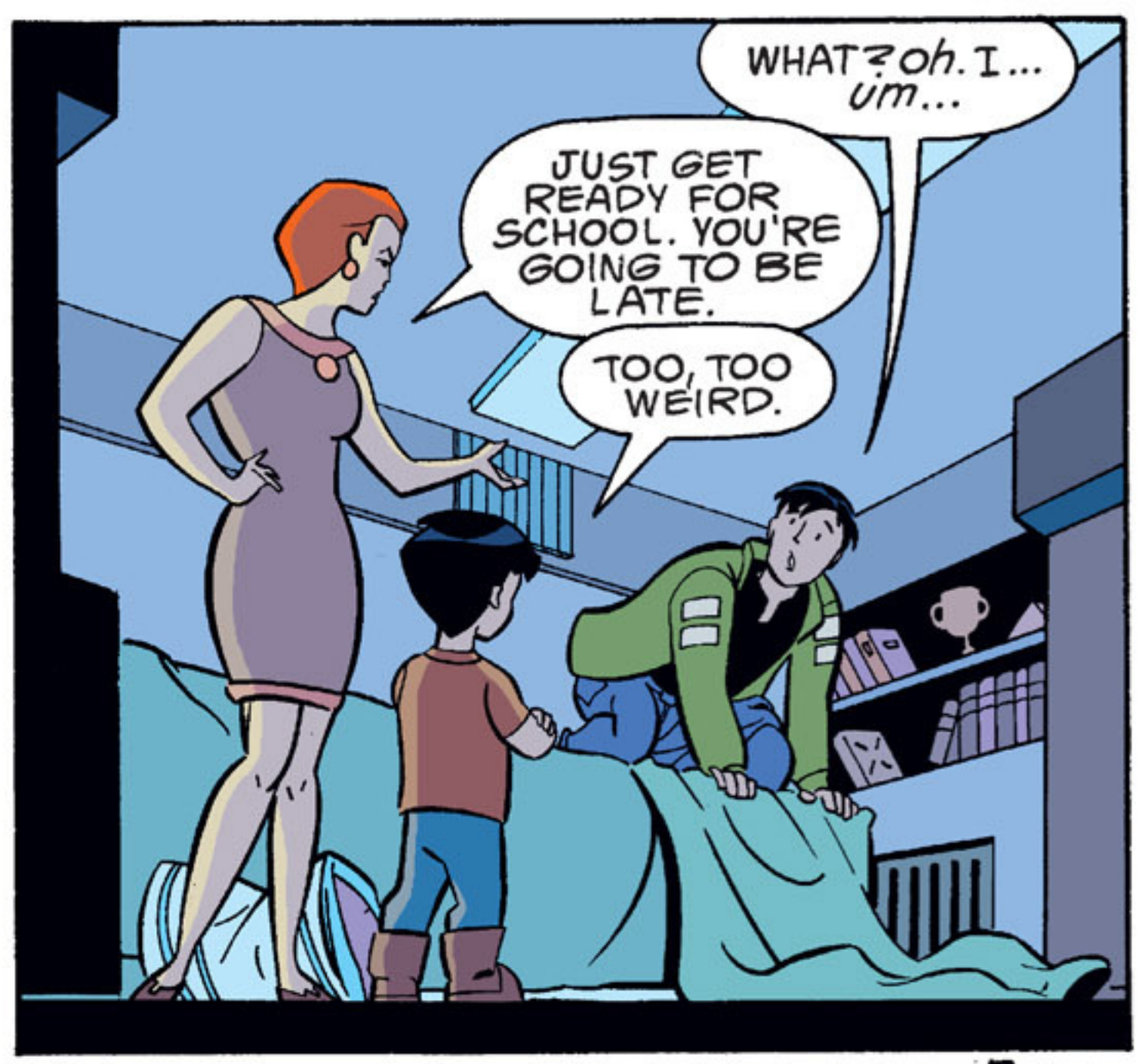
WHA? GET OFF ME!
UNGH!
HOW'D YOU GET IN MY HOUSE?

I'M NOT IN YOUR HOUSE. AND NEITHER ARE YOU.
ahh!

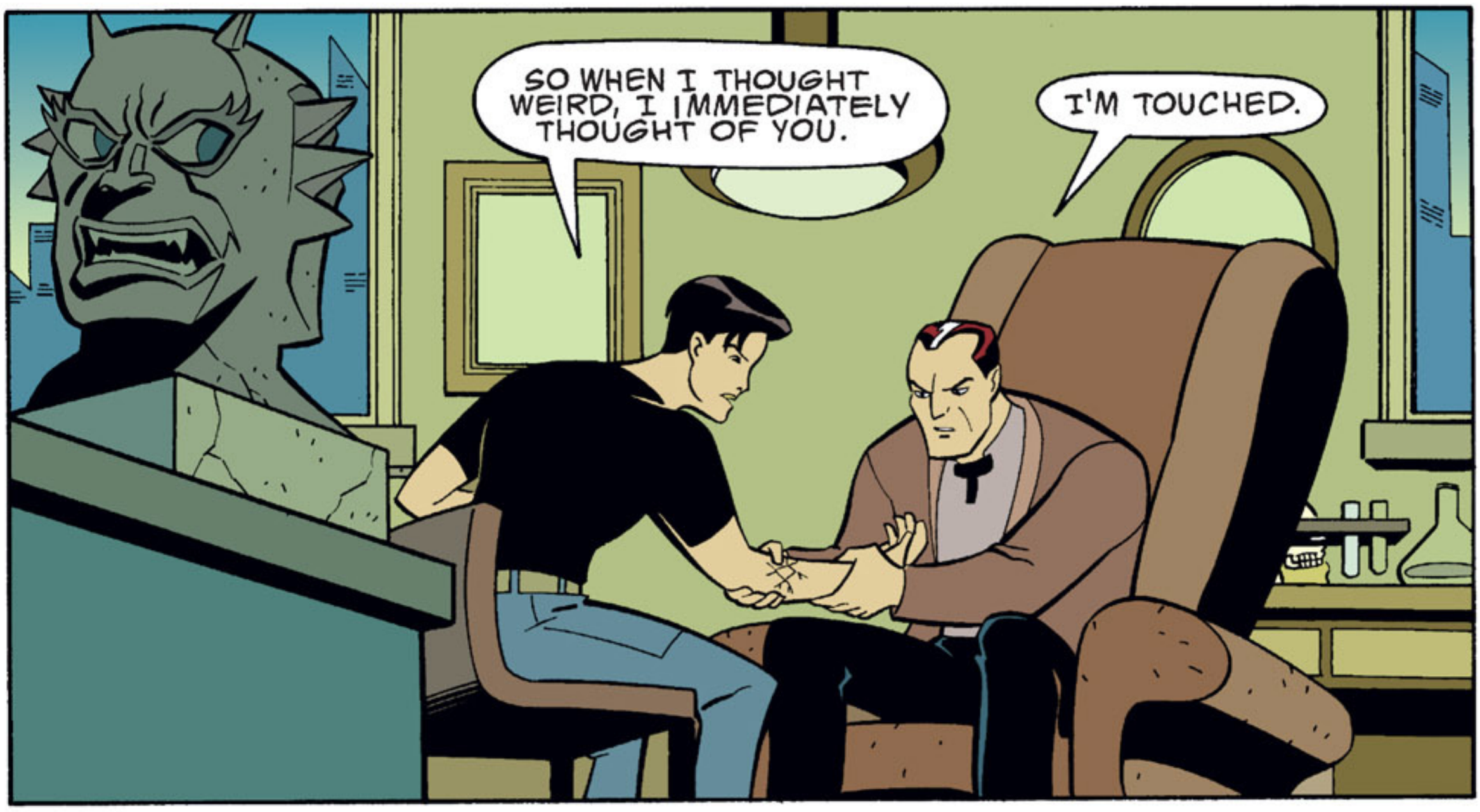
WHAT? WHERE ARE WE? WHERE HAVE YOU TAKEN ME?
IT IS YOU WHO HAVE TAKEN US HERE. YOU STILL DON'T REALIZE YOU ARE IN CONTROL IN THIS PLACE. BUT NOT FOR LONG.
THE MORE I LEARN, THE LESS YOU CONTROL. THE MORE I CONTROL, THE LESS YOU LIVE. OPEN SESAME!
BZZZZZZZZZ
YOU'RE SUCH AN EASY TARGET, BATMAN.
YAHHH!
BATMAN?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M BATMAN!
ZZZZ
ZZZ
YOUR SUIT DIDN'T PROTECT YOU FROM MY BITE. WHAT MAKES YOU THINK IT'LL PROTECT YOU NOW?
'CAUSE I GOT A BUILT-IN BUGZAPPER.


TERRY?
HE'S WEIRD.
TAKE THAT, YOU MANGY BUGS!
TERRY!

TERRY!!!!


WHAT? oh. I... um...
JUST GET READY FOR SCHOOL. YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE.
TOO, TOO WEIRD.

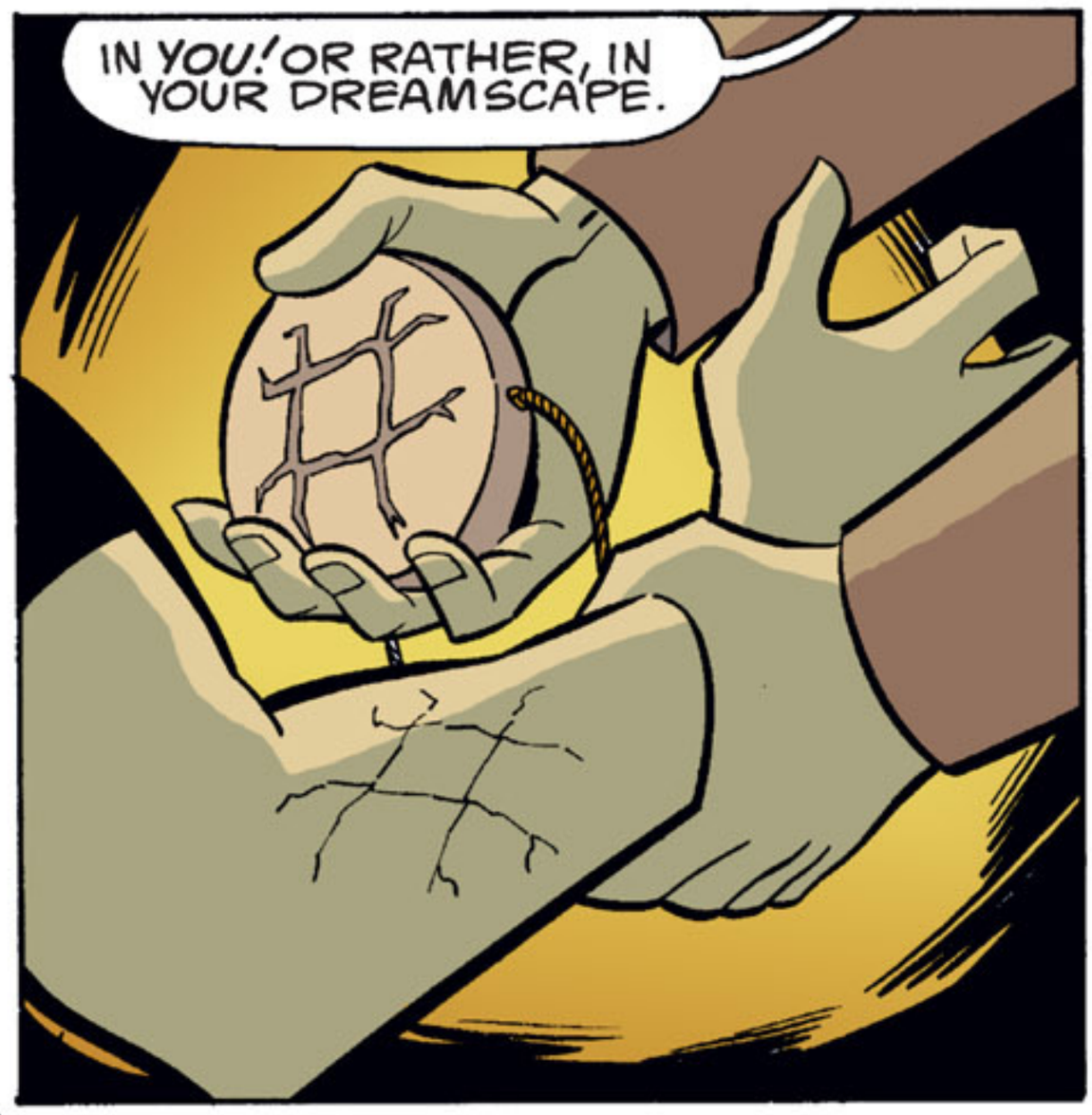
TOO WEIRD IS RIGHT.


SO WHEN I THOUGHT WEIRD, I IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT OF YOU.
I'M TOUCHED.

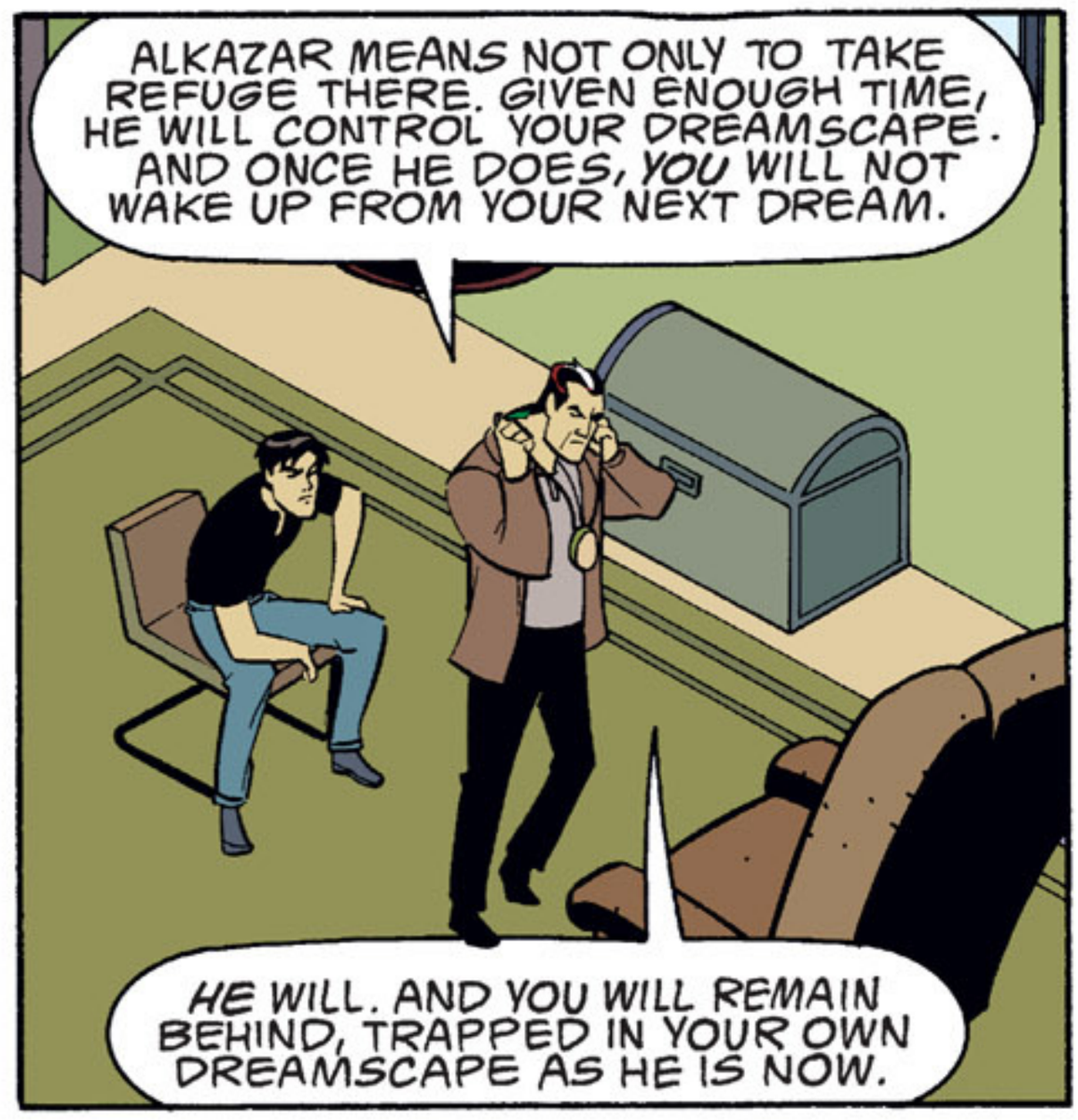
AND SO WERE YOU, BY THE DEMON *ALKAZAR*. THAT'S HIS MARK ON YOUR ARM.

HIS DYING ACT.
HE'S NOT DEAD.
BUT I SAW---

--YOU SAW HIS CORPOREAL FORM TURNED TO DUST BY THE SUN. BUT DEMONS ARE NOT WHOLLY CORPOREAL. THEY ARE SPIRIT ENERGY.
HIS SPIRIT FOUND REFUGE BEFORE THE SUN DESTROYED IT.
REFUGE? I KNOW I'M GOING TO *HATE* MYSELF FOR ASKING THIS, BUT...
WHERE?


IN *YOU*! OR RATHER, IN YOUR DREAMSCAPE.

THAT'S WHY I DREAM ABOUT HIM. IT WAS A DREAM, WASN'T IT?
YES, FOR YOU. BUT FOR ALKAZAR IT WAS REALITY. AND HE WAS REALLY THERE.

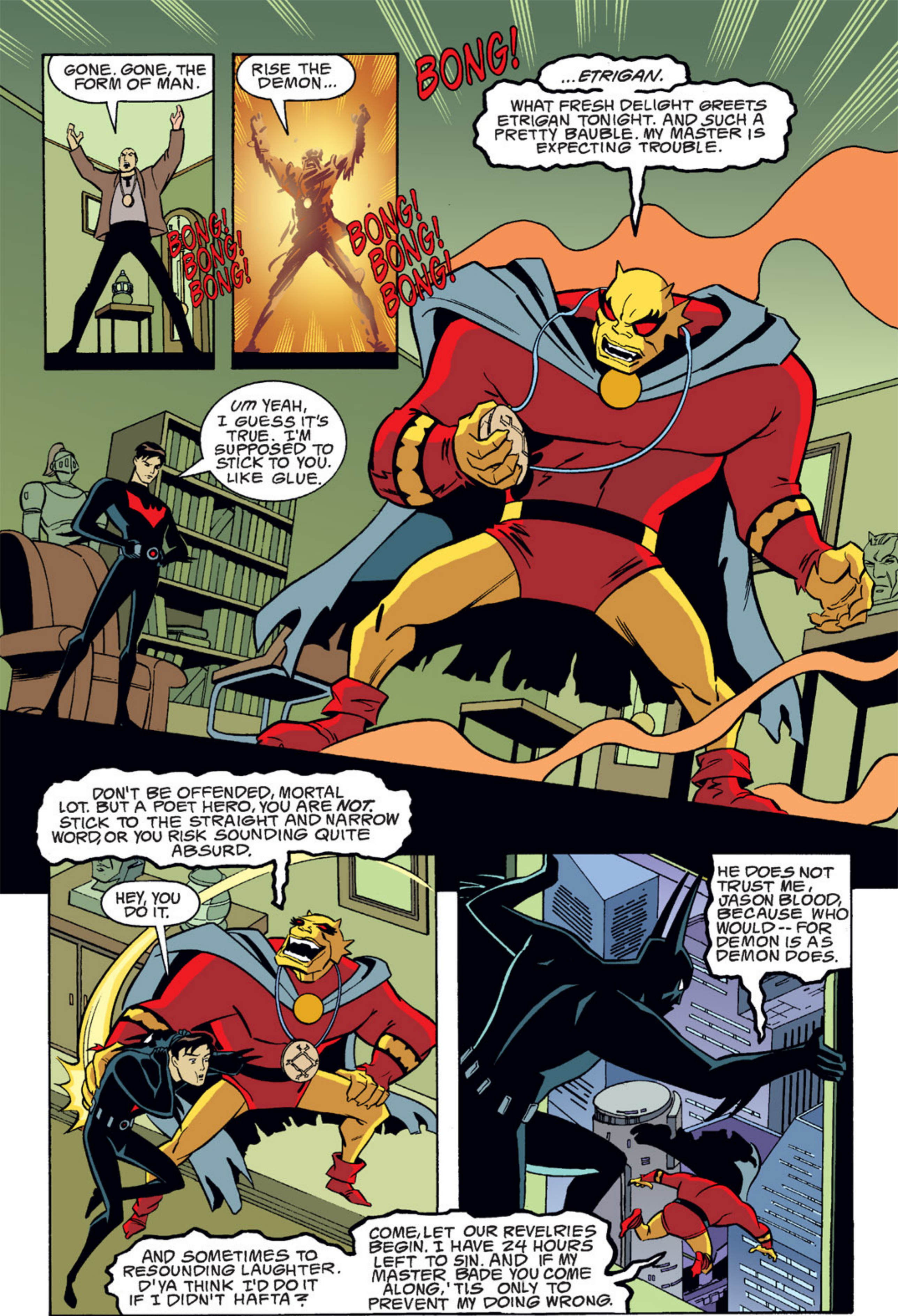

ALKAZAR MEANS NOT ONLY TO TAKE REFUGE THERE. GIVEN ENOUGH TIME, HE WILL CONTROL YOUR DREAMSCAPE. AND ONCE HE DOES, YOU WILL NOT WAKE UP FROM YOUR NEXT DREAM.
HE WILL. AND YOU WILL REMAIN BEHIND, TRAPPED IN YOUR OWN DREAMSCAPE AS HE IS NOW.

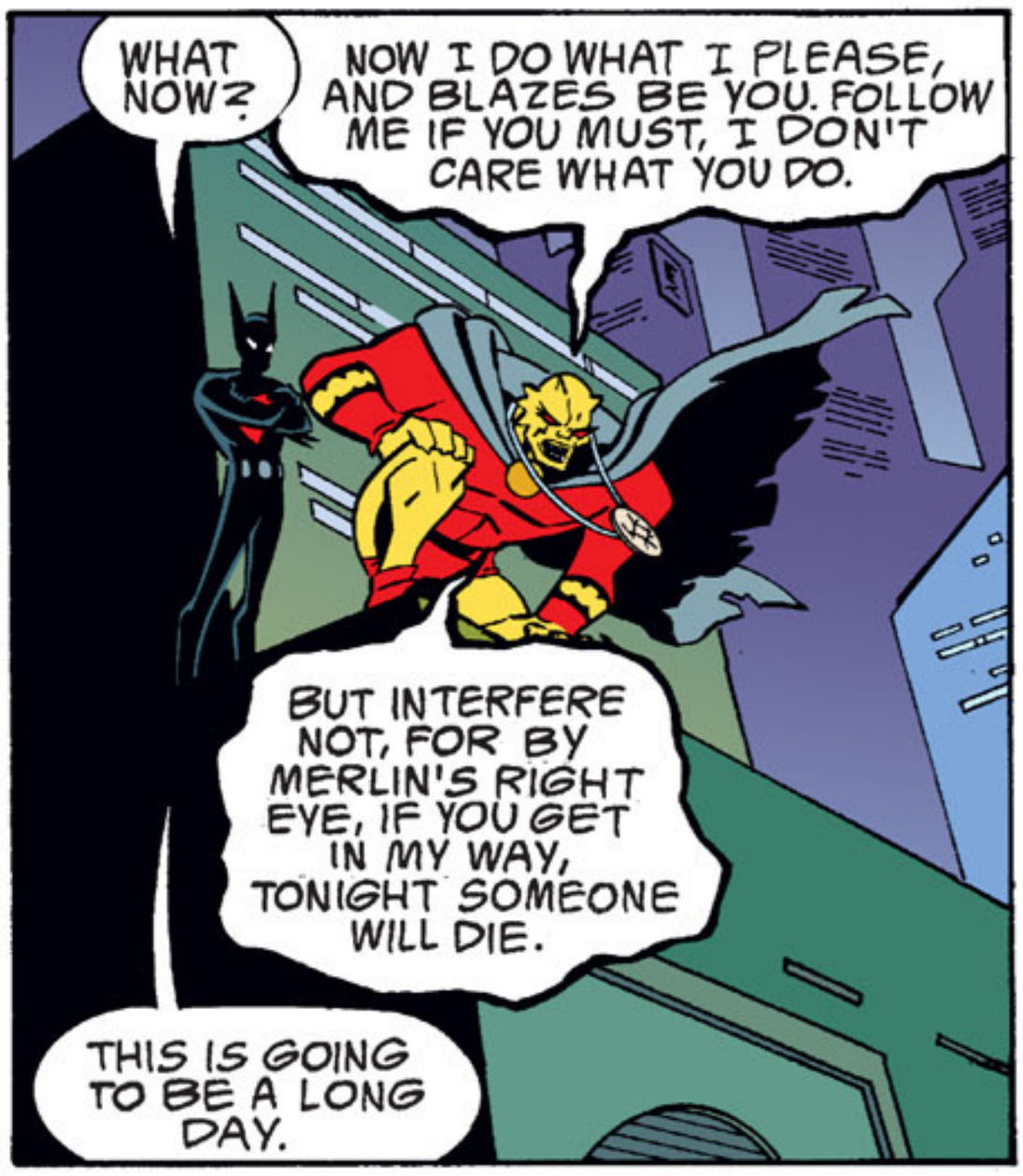
HOW DO I GET HIM OUT?
I MUST TEACH YOU TO DEFEAT HIM. AND UNTIL I DO...
YOU MUST NOT SLEEP. DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME? UNTIL I RETURN, YOU MUST NOT FALL ASLEEP.
RETURN? FROM WHERE?

IT IS THE NIGHT BEFORE HALLOWEEN. AT MIDNIGHT...
WHAT? YOU TURN INTO A PUMPKIN?
NO. INTO ETRIGAN.
IT IS AN OLD CONTRACT, MADE FOR REASONS I DO NOT CHOOSE TO SHARE WITH YOU. BUT THE DAY OF HALLOWEEN IS PROMISED TO ETRIGAN.

YOU MUST STAY WITH ETRIGAN THROUGH THE NIGHT. IF YOU FALL ASLEEP, IF YOU FAIL, IF YOUR DEMON SUCCEEDS, ETRIGAN MAY BE THE ONLY HOPE TO SAVE MANKIND.
IF YOU CAN TRUST HIM.

I TRUST HIM TO DO WHAT IS IN HIS OWN BEST INTERESTS. BUT ENOUGH SAID. THE HOUR IS HERE FOR US BOTH TO TRANSFORM.


GONE. GONE, THE FORM OF MAN.
BONG! BONG! BONG!
RISE THE DEMON...
BONG! BONG! BONG!
BONG!
...ETRIGAN.
WHAT FRESH DELIGHT GREETS ETRIGAN TONIGHT. AND SUCH A PRETTY BAUBLE. MY MASTER IS EXPECTING TROUBLE.
UM YEAH, I GUESS IT'S TRUE. I'M SUPPOSED TO STICK TO YOU. LIKE GLUE.
DON'T BE OFFENDED, MORTAL LOT. BUT A POET HERO, YOU ARE NOT. STICK TO THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW WORD, OR YOU RISK SOUNDING QUITE ABSURD.
HEY, YOU DO IT.
AND SOMETIMES TO RESOUNDING LAUGHTER. D'YA THINK I'D DO IT IF I DIDN'T HAFTA?
HE DOES NOT TRUST ME, JASON BLOOD, BECAUSE WHO WOULD -- FOR DEMON IS AS DEMON DOES.
COME, LET OUR REVELRIES BEGIN. I HAVE 24 HOURS LEFT TO SIN. AND IF MY MASTER BADE YOU COME ALONG, 'TIS ONLY TO PREVENT MY DOING WRONG.

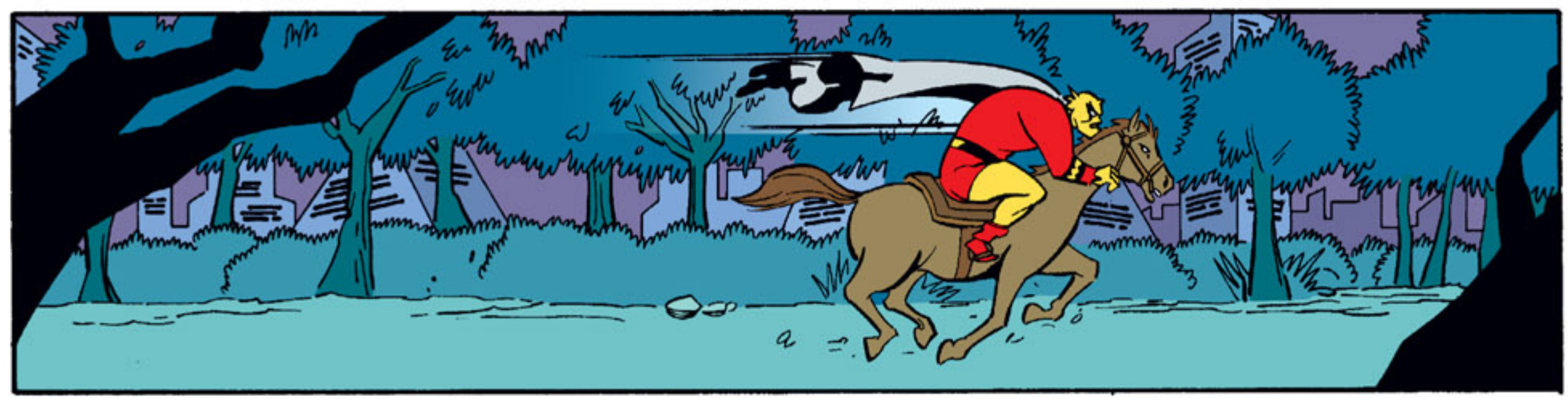

WHAT NOW?
NOW I DO WHAT I PLEASE, AND BLAZES BE YOU. FOLLOW ME IF YOU MUST, I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO.
BUT INTERFERE NOT, FOR BY MERLIN'S RIGHT EYE, IF YOU GET IN MY WAY, TONIGHT SOMEONE WILL DIE.
THIS IS GOING TO BE A LONG DAY.

HaHaHa. THIS'LL BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO GET OFF. HARDWARE GUY SWORE THIS STUFF WAS PERMANENT.
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU DESIRE.
YEAH. THEY'LL HAVE TO BURN IT OFF.

I'LL BATHE YOU BOTH IN CLEANSING FIRE.
wha!!

WRITE ONE MORE WORD AND YOU'LL BE DEAD. NOW HURRY HOME AND GO TO BED.

YAAAAAHHH!
THAT WAS SWEET. IS THIS YOUR DAY FOR GOOD DEEDS?
I DO MY PLEASURE AND IF GOOD IS DONE, I DO NOT CARE. AS LONG AS I HAVE FUN.



HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP, MCGINNIS?

TIRED. BUT I'LL MAKE IT TO MIDNIGHT. SO FAR NOTHING HE'S DONE WAS SO BAD THAT I HAD TO INTERFERE.

"SO FAR." TROUBLE'S ALWAYS JUST A MOMENT AWAY WITH ETRIGAN.

AND ONCE AGAIN, WAYNE, YOU PREDICT DISASTER AND IT HAPPENS.

TONIGHT YOU ALL MUST PAY *MY* WAY TILL IT BECOMES ANOTHER DAY. SO GIVE ME YOUR IMMORTAL SOULS, AND THUS YOU WILL HAVE PAID YOUR TOLLS.

HONK HONK HONK

YIPES. WHAT THE...? THIS SOME STUNT? HEY, WATCH THE PAINT.

SCREECH!

YOU WANT MY LIFE? YOU WANT MY SOUL? COME AND GET IT.

DON'T DO IT. DON'T JUMP.

AND HERE'S A MAN WHO HEARS DEATH'S CALL. GOOD FELLOW JUMP. GOOD FELLOW FALL. AS DEMONS KNOW SO VERY WELL, HE WHO TAKES HIS OWN LIFE ENDS UP IN HELL.

TOO LATE, TOO LATE. HE'S MET HIS FATE.

NOT IF I CAN HELP IT.

YAHHH!

TOLL PLAZA

UNGH!

NO. WHAT HAVE YOU---

A TRICK I LEARNED FROM MORPHEUS, AND NOW IT SEEMS...

HERE'S WHERE WE PART. I'LL SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS.

NNG. NO... I... SLEEP. I CAN'T...

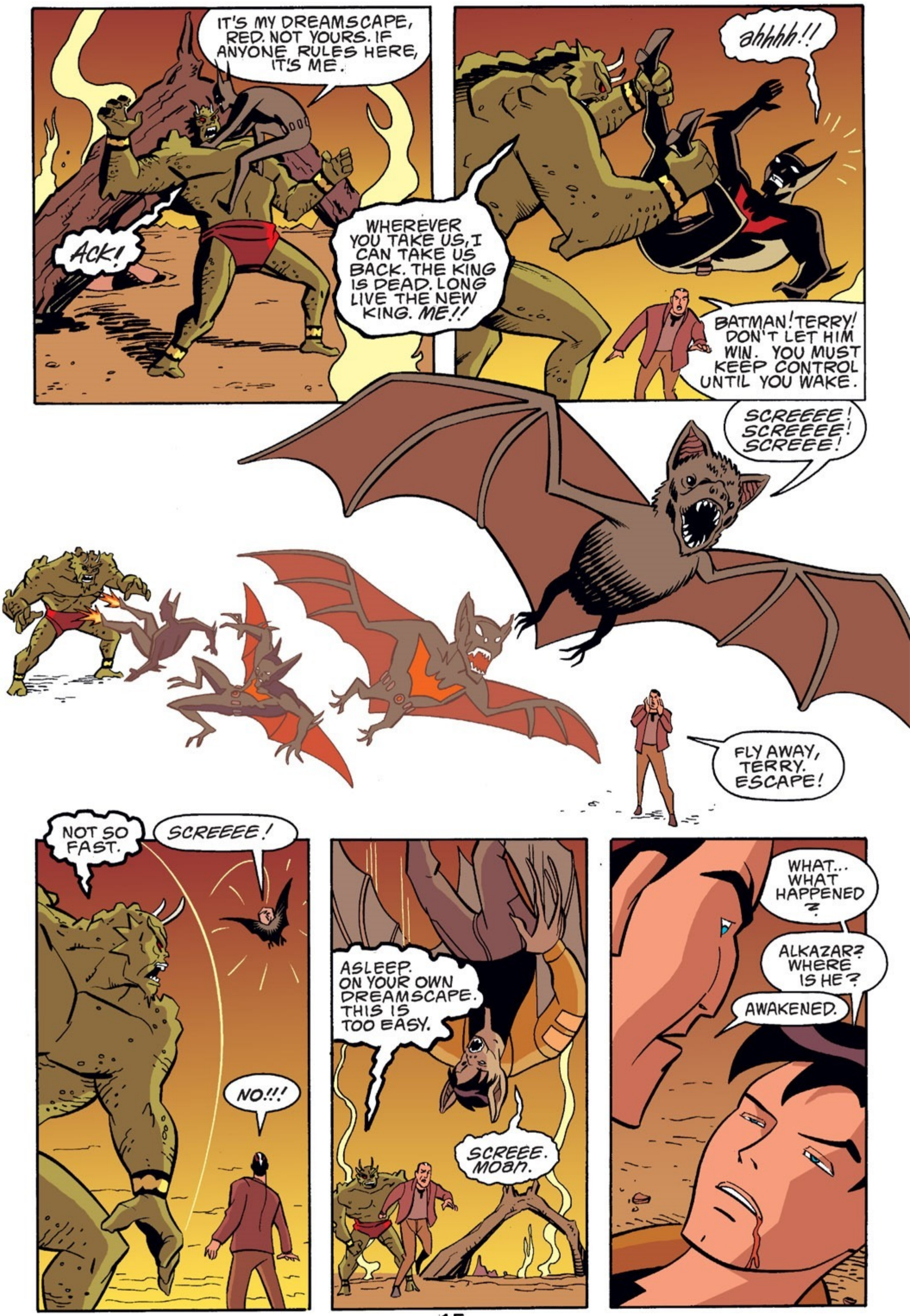
TERRY! NO! REMEMBER WHAT JASON SAID. TERRY, WAKE UP!

WAKE UP!!!

mmm. FRESH MEAT IN DREAMLAND...

AND THE ADVANTAGE IS MINE, BATMAN. I'VE BEEN HERE FOR TWO DAYS WITH NO INTERRUPTIONS. I RULE THIS PLACE. I RULE YOUR DREAMS.

HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA



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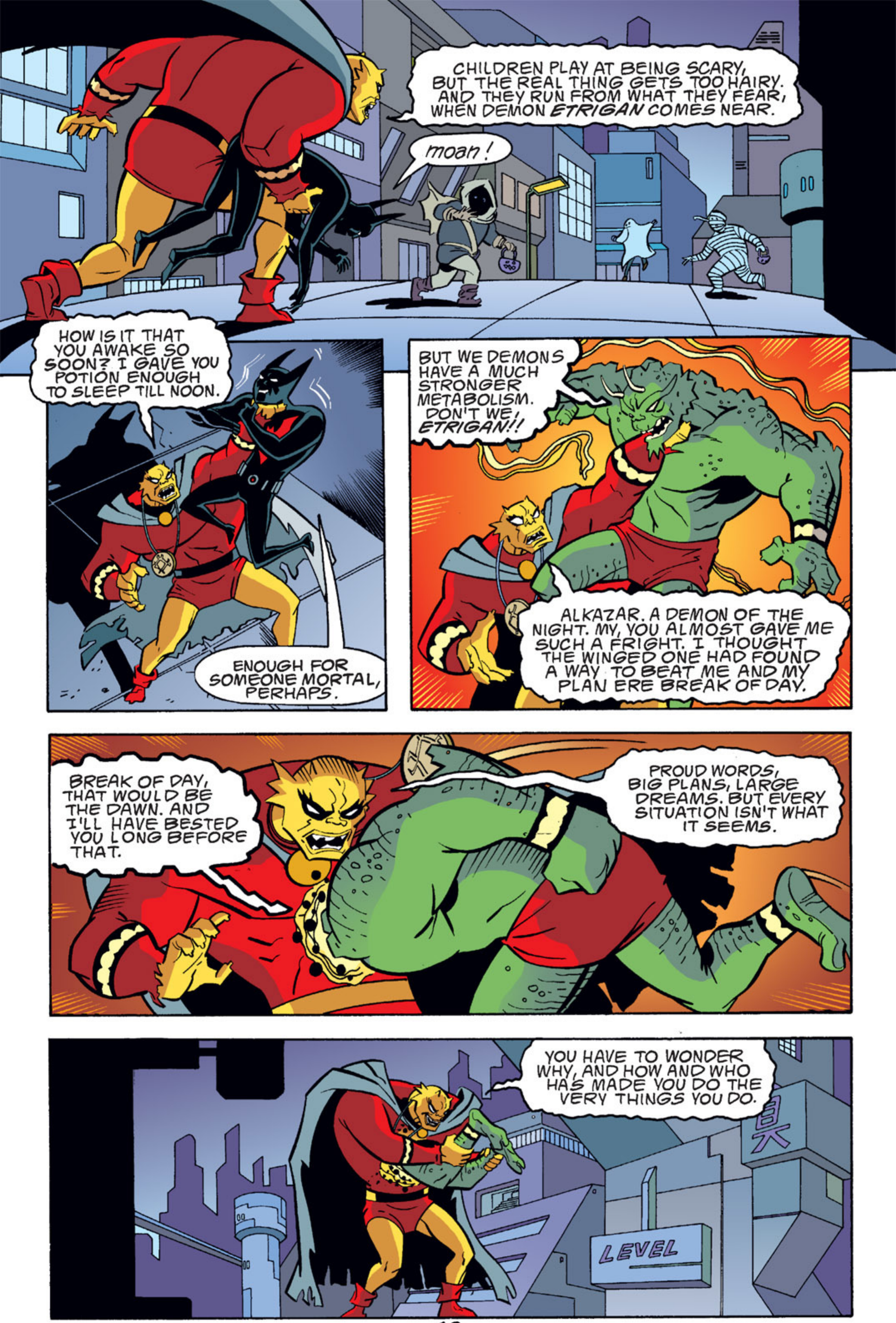
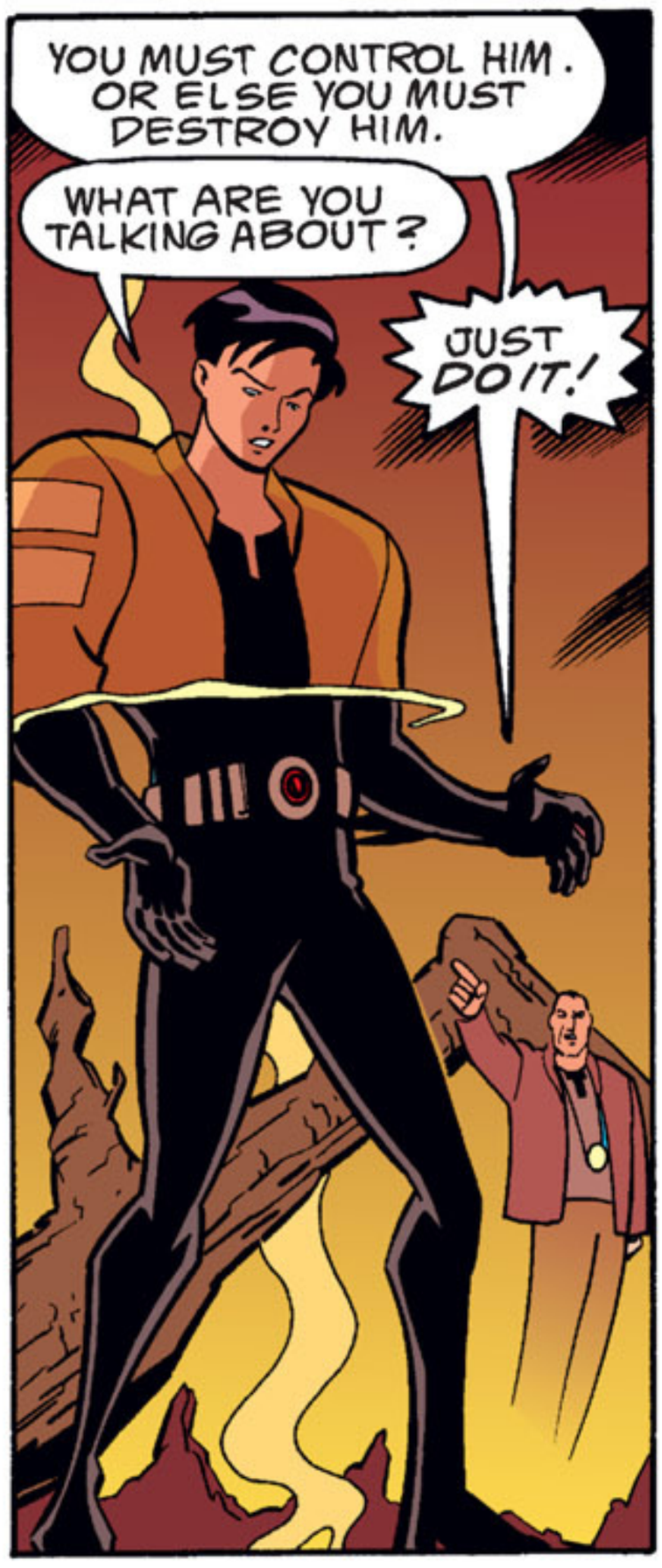
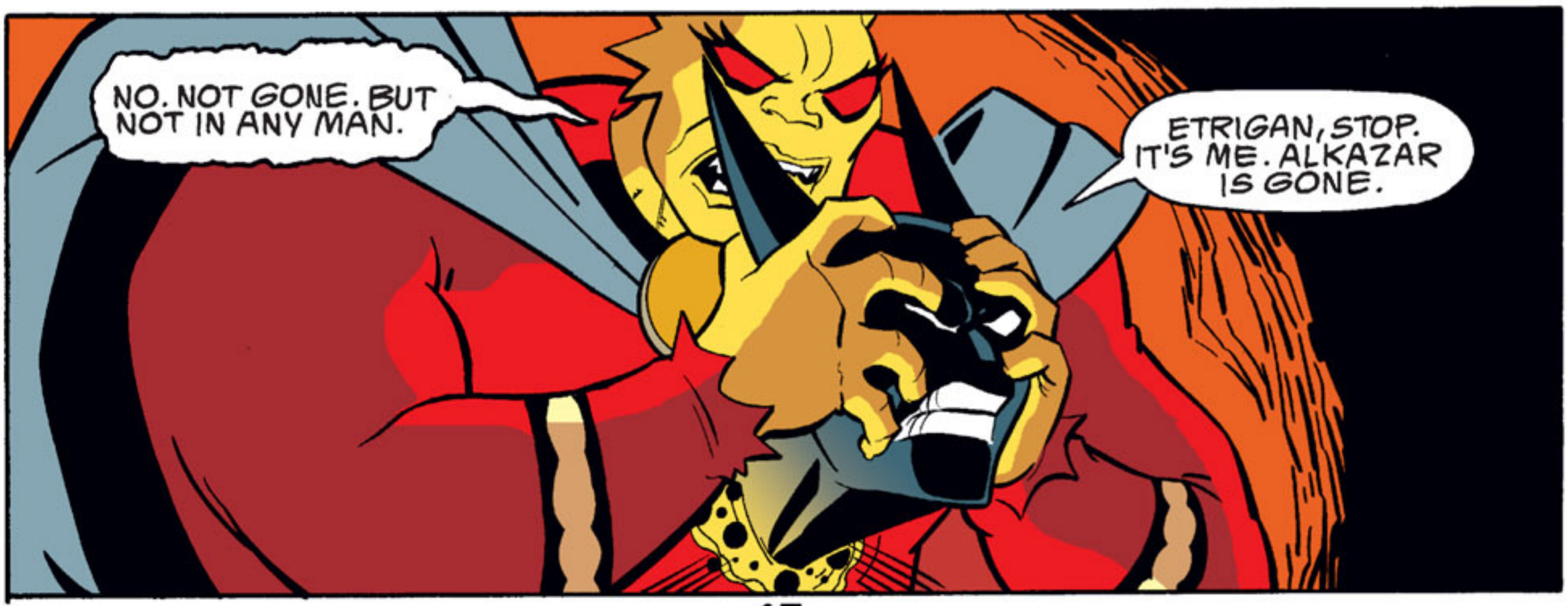

CHILDREN PLAY AT BEING SCARY, BUT THE REAL THING GETS TOO HAIRY. AND THEY RUN FROM WHAT THEY FEAR, WHEN DEMON ETRIGAN COMES NEAR.
moan!
HOW IS IT THAT YOU AWAKE SO SOON? I GAVE YOU POTION ENOUGH TO SLEEP TILL NOON.
ENOUGH FOR SOMEONE MORTAL, PERHAPS.
BUT WE DEMONS HAVE A MUCH STRONGER METABOLISM. DON'T WE, ETRIGAN!!
ALKAZAR. A DEMON OF THE NIGHT. MY, YOU ALMOST GAVE ME SUCH A FRIGHT. I THOUGHT THE WINGED ONE HAD FOUND A WAY TO BEAT ME AND MY PLAN ERE BREAK OF DAY.
BREAK OF DAY, THAT WOULD BE THE DAWN. AND I'LL HAVE BESTED YOU LONG BEFORE THAT.
PROUD WORDS, BIG PLANS, LARGE DREAMS. BUT EVERY SITUATION ISN'T WHAT IT SEEMS.
YOU HAVE TO WONDER WHY, AND HOW AND WHO HAS MADE YOU DO THE VERY THINGS YOU DO.
LEVEL

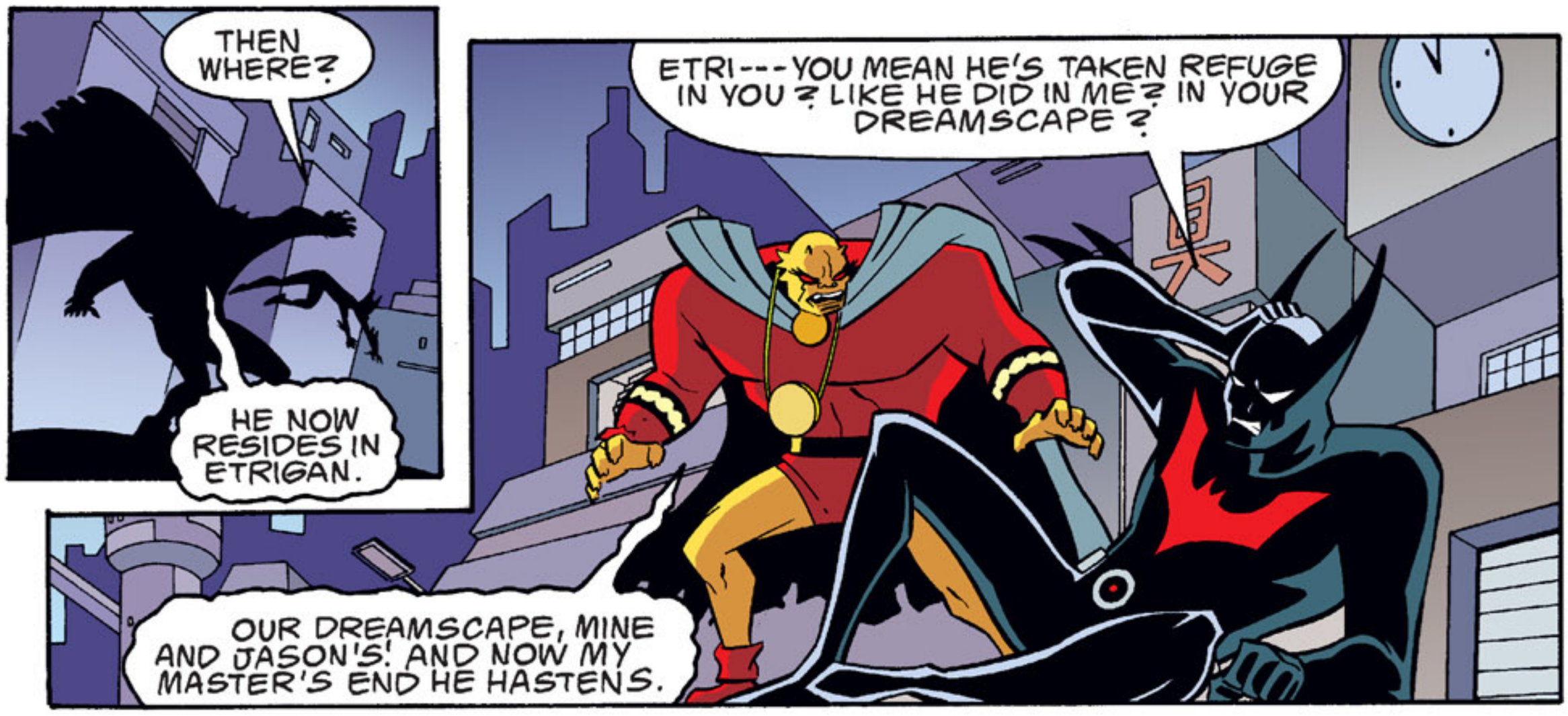
ahhh! YOU'RE KILLING ME. BUT WHY?
BECAUSE, AS SOON YOU'LL SEE, I NEED FOR YOU TO ELSEWHERE BE.

Agh! MY HEAD, IT'S -aaahh! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?
IT'S GROWING DARK. ETRIGAN IS KILLING ALKAZAR WHO HAS AWAKENED FROM YOUR DREAMSCAPE AND TAKEN YOUR PLACE. IF HE DIES, THIS DREAM DIES. AND YOU DIE.

IT IS AS I SUSPECTED. I MUST LEAVE. I AM BEING DRAWN BACK TO MY OWN DREAMSCAPE. I CANNOT STAY WITH YOU.
IF YOU WAKE, DO NOT LET ETRIGAN ESCAPE. IF I DO NOT RETURN IN TIME...


YOU MUST CONTROL HIM. OR ELSE YOU MUST DESTROY HIM.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
JUST DO IT!

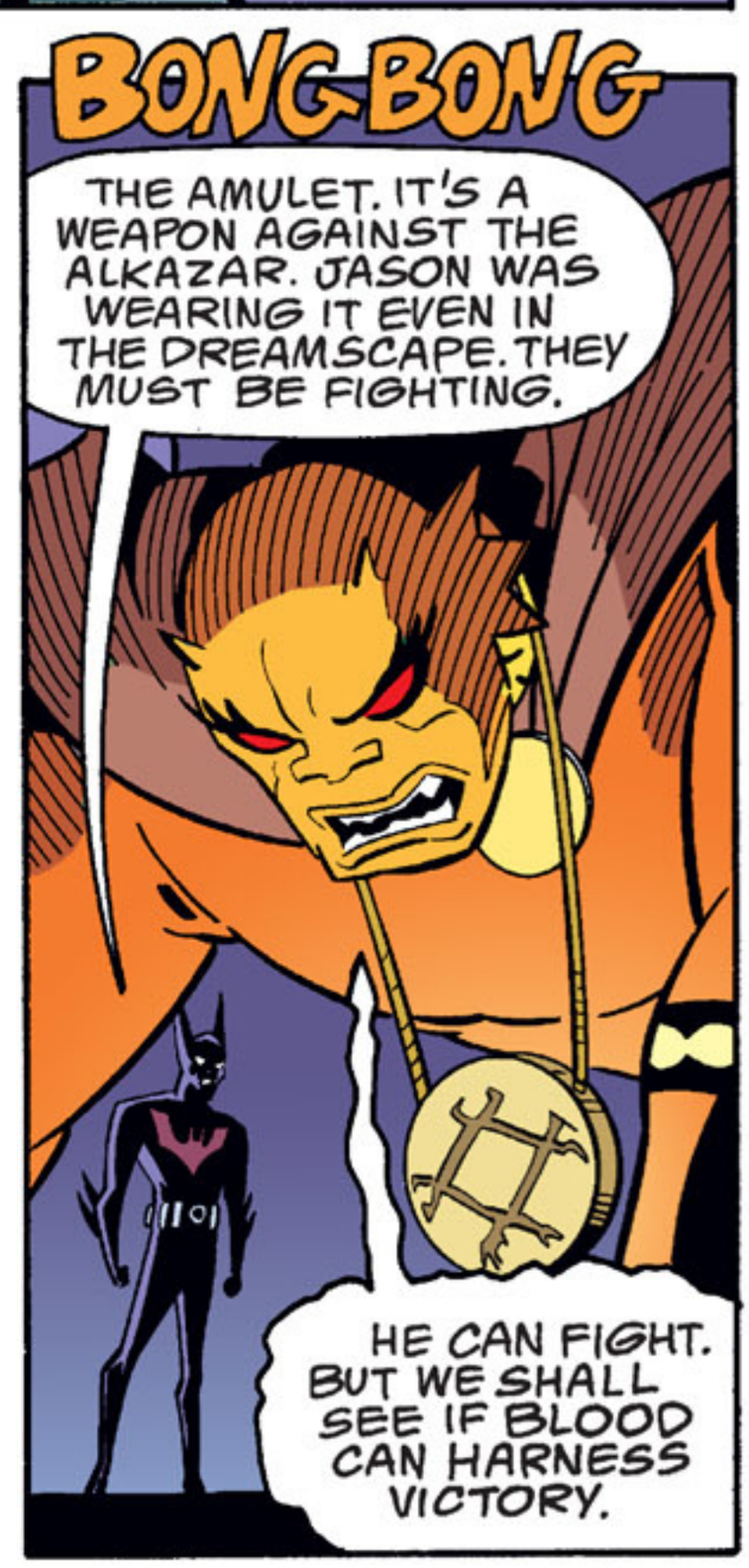

NO. NOT GONE. BUT NOT IN ANY MAN.
ETRIGAN, STOP. IT'S ME. ALKAZAR IS GONE.


THEN WHERE?
HE NOW RESIDES IN ETRIGAN.
ETRI---YOU MEAN HE'S TAKEN REFUGE IN YOU? LIKE HE DID IN ME? IN YOUR DREAMSCAPE?
OUR DREAMSCAPE, MINE AND JASON'S! AND NOW MY MASTER'S END HE HASTENS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU SENT HIM AFTER JASON? TO KILL HIM ON THE DREAMSCAPE? BUT WHY?
IF ALKAZAR DEFEATS MY MASTER IN THE DREAM, THEN EVERY NIGHT FOR ME IS HALLOWEEN.

THIS IS WHAT JASON MEANT. YOU PLANNED THIS. YOU WANT TO BE FREE OF JASON BLOOD, AND YOU'RE WILLING TO LEAVE HIM TRAPPED ON THE DREAMSCAPE FOR ETERNITY TO DO IT.
SO NOW YOU KNOW. AND NOW YOU, TOO, MUST GO.

NOT SO FAST, MY DEMONIC BUDDY. I'LL GIVE YOU 'TIL THE TWELFTH BONG. IF YOU'RE STILL HERE, THEN WE'LL SEE WHO "MUST GO."
BONG BONG


BONG BONG
THE AMULET. IT'S A WEAPON AGAINST THE ALKAZAR. JASON WAS WEARING IT EVEN IN THE DREAMSCAPE. THEY MUST BE FIGHTING.
HE CAN FIGHT. BUT WE SHALL SEE IF BLOOD CAN HARNESS VICTORY.

HOW DID YOU KNOW?
I'VE BEEN HIM FOR SO MANY CENTURIES. HOW COULD I NOT?
AND IF I DEFEAT YOU?
THEN YOU CAN BATTLE ETRIGAN FOR CONTROL. IF YOU KNOW HOW.

BONG BONG
I KNOW THESE SHOULDN'T HOLD. BUT JASON PUT A LITTLE MAGIC ON MY HARDWARE, JUST FOR DEMONS. THOUGHT I'D BE USING IT ON ALKAZAR, BUT IT'LL DO FOR YOU.

SALUM, LAR, GEHAR TEN NAMBU.
NOO! I MUST DEFEAT YOU FIRST.
LEAVE THIS PLACE. LEAVE THIS PLACE. SALUM, LAR, GEHAR. LEAVE THIS PLACE.

BONG BONG
MAYBE HE SHOULD HAVE DOUBLE-DOSED 'EM.

YOU WIN, BLOOD. YOU WIN, HERE. BUT I WILL FIND REFUGE ELSEWHERE.
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT.

NOT IF BATMAN CAN HELP IT.

Hah! NO! YOU CAN'T. HE CAN'T.
oh YES, I CAN--
BONG

BONG BONG
agh! NO! I HAVE TO GET TO REFUGE. HAVE TO HAVE HIM.
CAN'T HAVE ME. HOW 'BOUT A TASTE OF MAGIC? BATARANGS SPECIALLY FLAVORED, COURTESY OF JASON BLOOD!

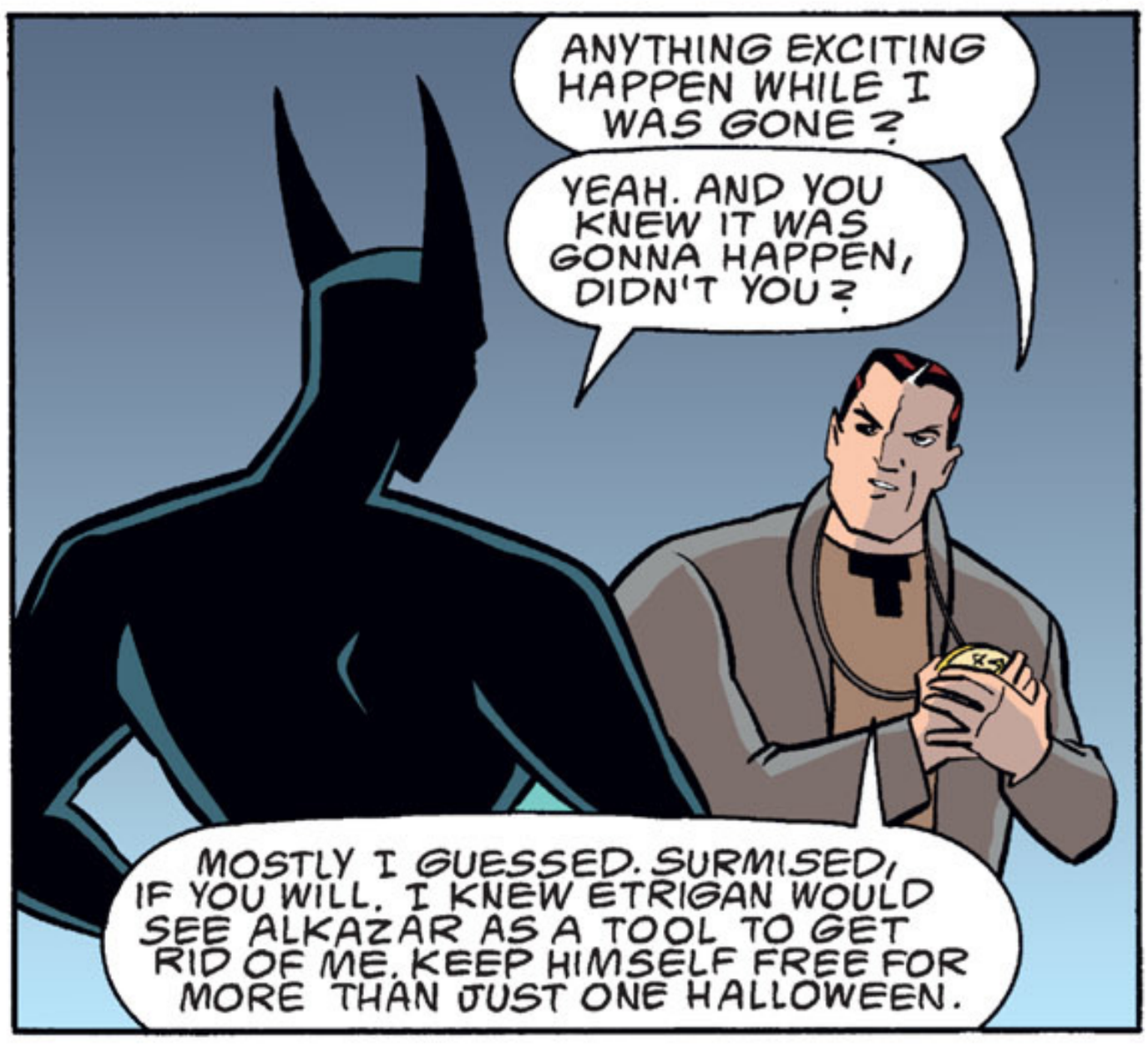
BONG
NO---
TIME'S UP, RED. SEE YOU IN...

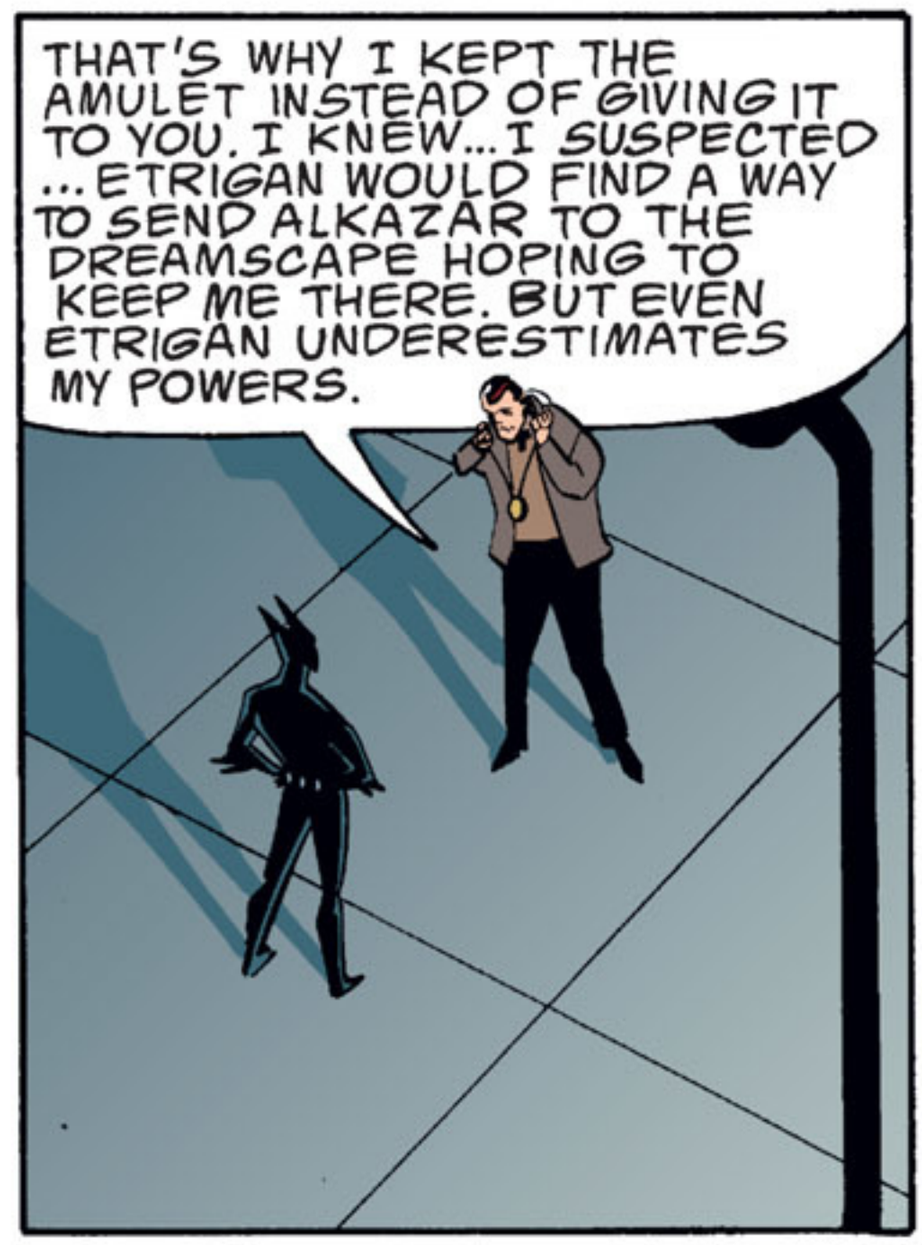
HELL IS MY HOME.

BONG
AND THERE I MUST AWAY.

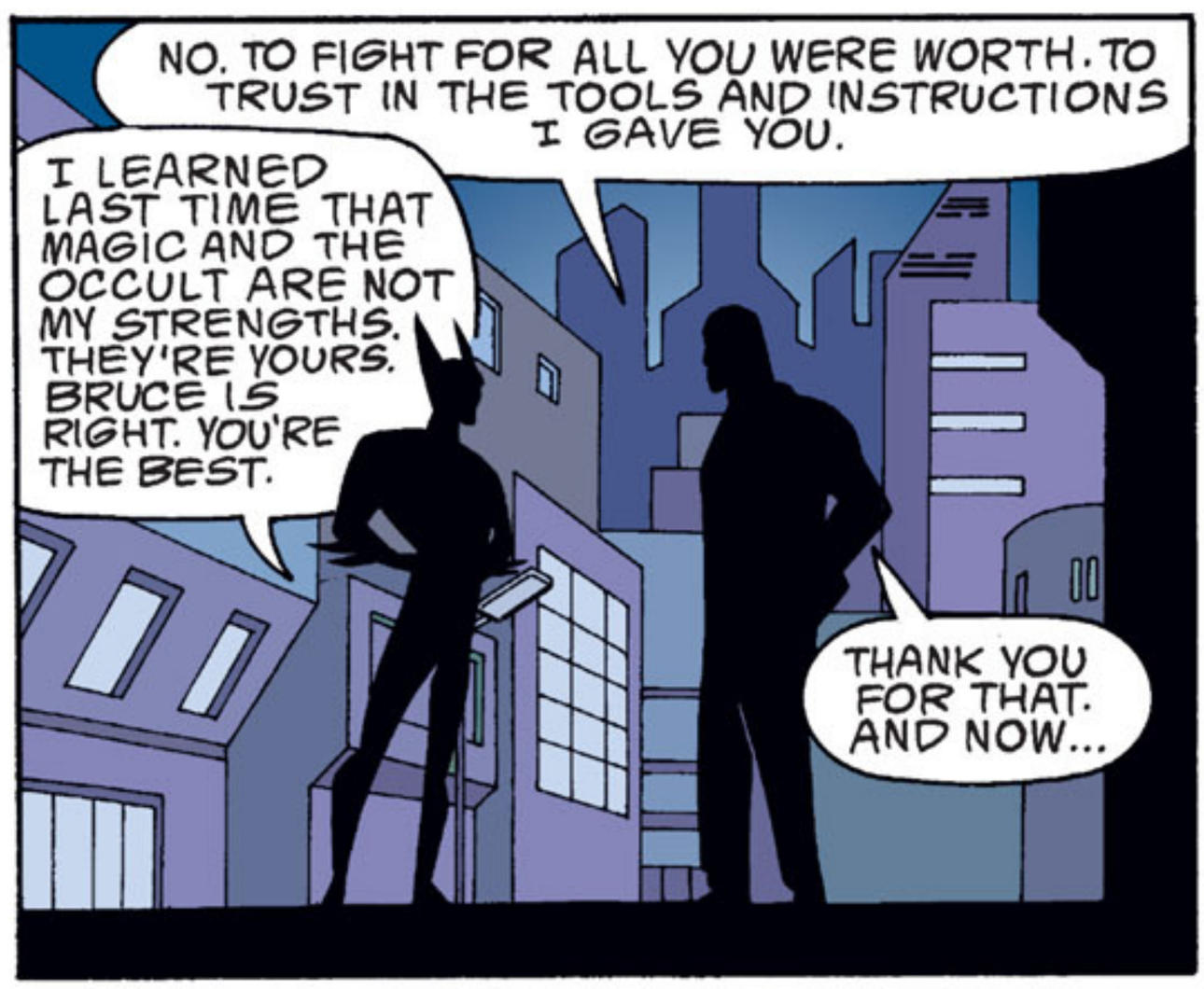
BECAUSE OF YOU. BUT WE SHALL MEET ANOTHER DAY.
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT.
"RISE, RISE, THE FORM OF MAN."

"BYE BYE DEMON ETRIGAN."


ANYTHING EXCITING HAPPEN WHILE I WAS GONE?
YEAH. AND YOU KNEW IT WAS GONNA HAPPEN, DIDN'T YOU?
MOSTLY I GUESSED. SURMISED, IF YOU WILL. I KNEW ETRIGAN WOULD SEE ALKAZAR AS A TOOL TO GET RID OF ME. KEEP HIMSELF FREE FOR MORE THAN JUST ONE HALLOWEEN.


THAT'S WHY I KEPT THE AMULET INSTEAD OF GIVING IT TO YOU. I KNEW... I SUSPECTED ...ETRIGAN WOULD FIND A WAY TO SEND ALKAZAR TO THE DREAMSCAPE HOPING TO KEEP ME THERE. BUT EVEN ETRIGAN UNDERESTIMATES MY POWERS.

I RELIED ON HIS DEMONNESS. AND I RELIED ON YOU.
TO FAIL? TO FALL ASLEEP?

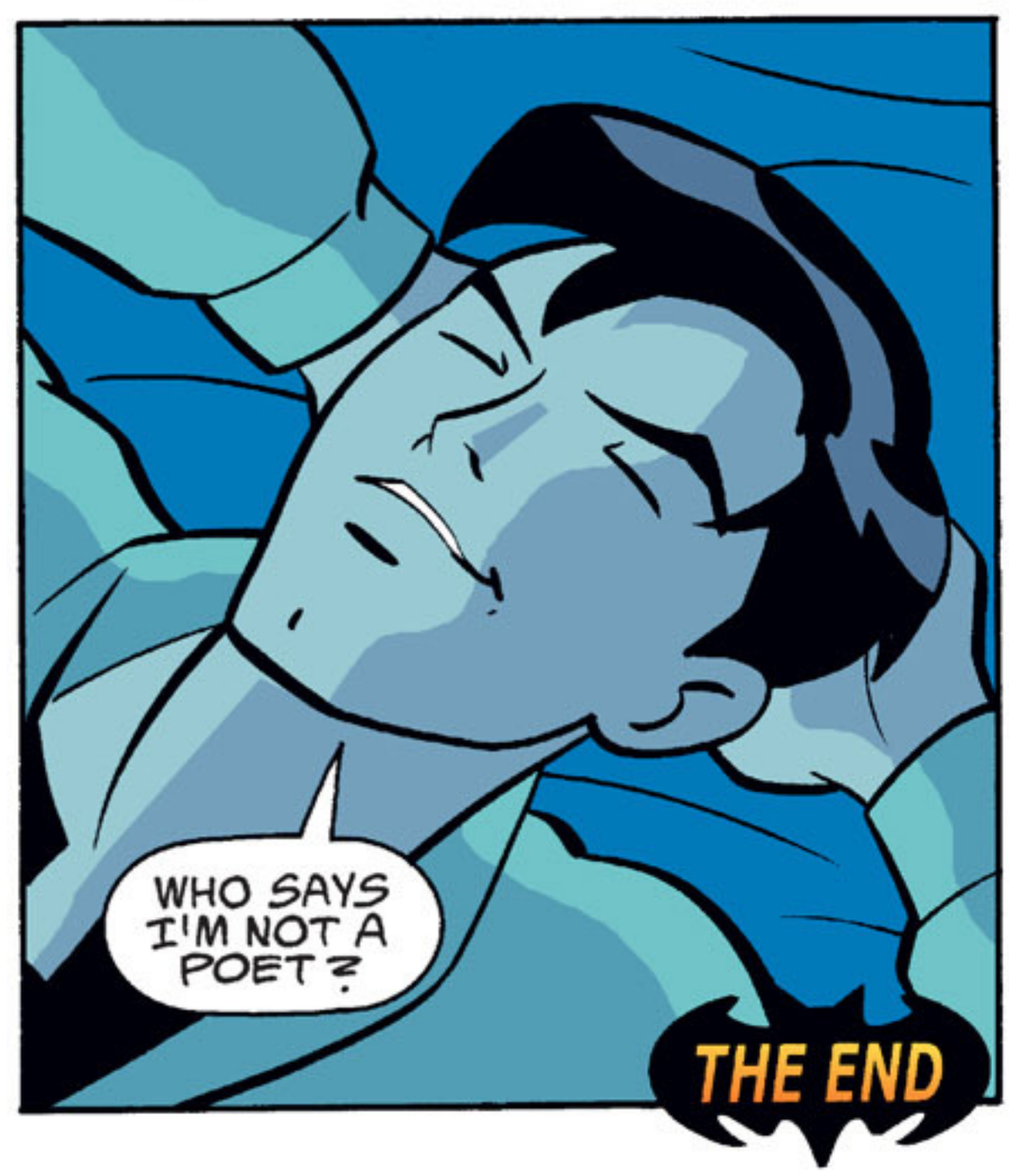

NO. TO FIGHT FOR ALL YOU WERE WORTH. TO TRUST IN THE TOOLS AND INSTRUCTIONS I GAVE YOU.
I LEARNED LAST TIME THAT MAGIC AND THE OCCULT ARE NOT MY STRENGTHS. THEY'RE YOURS. BRUCE IS RIGHT. YOU'RE THE BEST.
THANK YOU FOR THAT. AND NOW...

"...GO GET SOME REST."
HUNGH. OH MAN. AM I READY. SIGH...
SNURKLE. SNORT. SO, SO, READ-- ZZZZZEEE.

YAAAAAHH!
AAAAHHH!!

HA-HA-HA-HA-HA HA-HAH. WHAT A WIMP!
GET OUT, DWEEB, AND NOT ANOTHER PEEP.

YOU'LL BE REAL SORRY IF I DON'T GET SOME SLEEP.


WHO SAYS I'M NOT A POET?
THE END